

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY



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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

K+S is committed to best practice environmental management for the Project and is drawing on expertise within Australia and globally to ensure the Project is environmentally appropriate.

From the outset, environmental scientists are working closely with Project engineers, with environmental impact avoidance and minimisation considered as part of each step of the design process.

The K+S approach to environmental management for the Project includes:

- Locating the Project 40 km south-west of Onslow, to minimise its interface with the Exmouth Gulf;
- Ensuring an adequate buffer to mangrove communities (recognising these are important components of the ecosystem);
- Minimising impacts on algae mat communities (recognising these are important primary producers in the local food chain);
- Not including long-term bitterns (salty water produced from seawater evaporation) storage in the Project design, instead investigating other recognised best practice methods of bitterns management in use within the salt industry; and
- Minimising, if not eliminating, dredging of the ocean floor.

The above initiatives along with a comprehensive project Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Plan, will place Ashburton Salt amongst the best environmentally performing solar salt projects in Australia and globally.

ENVIRONMENTAL REFERRAL PROCESS

In mid-to-late September 2016, K+S will refer the Project to the Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), which will determine the state level of assessment for the Project. The referral information will be available for a 7-day public comment period which will be advertised on the EPA's consultation hub at <https://consultation.epa.wa.gov.au/>

At the same time, K+S will refer the Project to the Australian Government Minister for Environment and Energy, who will determine the federal level of assessment. The referral information will be available for a 10-business-day public comment period which will be advertised on the federal consultation portal at <http://epbcnotices.environment.gov.au/invitations/>

Members of the public and interested stakeholders are invited to provide comments, to help the EPA and Federal Minister make their decisions on the level of assessment. K+S welcomes feedback on the Project through this process. Further information on the ongoing approvals process is available through fact sheets as outlined below.





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FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

K+S have prepared a number of fact sheets on various environmental aspects of the Ashburton Salt Project as follows:

About the Environment: Fact sheet #1	Benthic Communities (mangroves, algal mats, seagrasses and corals)
About the Environment: Fact sheet #2	Coastal Processes (sea levels, tides, wind and waves)
About the Environment: Fact sheet #3	Marine Environmental Quality (ocean water quality)
About the Environment: Fact sheet #4	Marine Fauna (animals that inhabit the ocean)
About the Environment: Fact sheet #5	Terrestrial Flora and Fauna (land based plants and animals)
About the Environment: Fact sheet #6	Hydrological Processes (surface water, groundwater and nutrients)
About the Environment: Fact sheet #7	Environmental Approval Processes (details regarding the State and Federal approvals processes).

These fact sheets are available for download at www.ashburtonsalt.com.au

Have your say

Provide feedback on environmental considerations


K+S welcomes community and stakeholder feedback on environmental aspects of the Project. We encourage interested people to provide feedback through the following processes:

- Making public comments and submissions through the formal regulatory approval processes as outlined in the About the Environment: Fact sheet #7 - Environmental Approval Processes (listed above).
- Attending advertised community information sessions in Onslow and Exmouth.
- Registering for regular updates at the following website address: www.ashburtonsalt.com.au
- Direct feedback to K+S at the following email address: ashburtonsalt@k-plus-s.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

 www.ashburtonsalt.com.au

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K+S is a German-based international resources company with more than 125 years' experience in salt production.